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ETCETERA

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ETC.

Welcome to the new ETCETERA. Now it's solely the brain-pain of Paul Levitz because PK has bowed out. New size and other details will be evolved slowly.

I can't manage two issues this summer without PK so we'll have to just adjust things accordingly. 6 will be out August 1 and 7 will be out about September 8. 8 will be out on September 20 and from then on I'll be on time again. Sorry but I can't help it.

PK bowed out the day before ~~we~~ I have to go to press so forgive any editorial "we's" in this ish. I don't know if he'll still be reviewing comics but if not I will.

Etc. will not suffer greatly from his loss. I will but I promise you will not. If you want to lend a helping hand then send articles of comment, Hero Histories, and anything else you can. Etc. will continue to expand and improve but this can only take place at your mercy.

Thanks to Mark Hanerfeld most especially for some aid and assistance beyond the call of fandom (or prodom). Thanks to some tips he gave me I hope to carry news of books soon, as well as Charlton and Gold Key.

LoCs on the new Etc would be appreciated. New York Con coverage next issue. Photos may be included.

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWELVE

REVIEW

THE LIFE OF A SERIES--
SUPER DC GIANT

Now that Super DC Giant has been cancelled, I felt that perhaps it deserved a review. Okay, so here it is.

We saw the first Super DC Giant come out in the form of Binky. Although it was the first of a series it was numbered S-13 (for the same obscure reasons that the first 100-page giant is number 4). The Binky Super DC giant was just that--Binky. And it wasn't very special; but it was a start...sort of.

The next was Top Guns Of The West. This was a fairly good issue, consisting of Gil Kane/Johnny Thunder, Carmine Infantino on Trigger Twins, and other western gems. This was the first of three westerns.

The second western (S-15) was under the old title and logo of Western Comics. It was another good collection of vintage western tales. Included were Pow Wow Smith by Infantino, Buffalo Bill by Joe Kubert, and one of the two original stories to appear in Super DC Giant -- Stand Proud The Warrior Breed by Gil Kane.

The first really good issue was The Best From The Brave And The Bold (and it was). Reprinted in it was the first Batman-Flash team-up by Infantino (from 67) and the origin of Metamorpho (from 57). There were also a few pages of original gap-filling material and a pin-up.

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PLEASE make all checks and/or money orders payable to Paul Levitz.



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NEWS



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Rich Buckler will do at least two Rose & Thorn stories -- probably both inked by Dick Giordano.

Mayor Lindsay has written a letter to DC about the first part of the GL/GA drug story (the cover of which is reproduced in this issue) and it will be printed in a special two-page lettercol in the second part.

The GL/GA after the drug story will be done in a split format. There will be a Green Lantern story written by Denny O'Neil involving a black Green Lantern. The Green Arrow story is an 11 pager by a new writer named Elliot Magin. Neal Adams will draw one, but not both, of the stories. At the moment it's anybody's guess which.

All the DC humor magazines have been canceled.

All-Star Western and Son Of Tomahawk are still going. Tomahawk will feature classic Tomahawk reprints in the back. A near future Tomahawk (out in September) will tell the story of how he met his wife. She appears throughout the issue topless but any code conflict is neatly avoided by artistic posing. Bat Lash will be the regular reprint feature in All-Star Western in split adventures. Billy The Kid will make only one more appearance in ASW. Reprints in issue 8 of All-Star Western will include: Buffalo Bill, Pow-Wow Smith, and Davy Crockett. There will also a three page short story by Kane called "Timber Wolf". 9 will have only 5 pages of new material, a free story called "Hang 'Em High!". An Infantino Pow-Wow Smith running 13 pages, an 8 page Buffalo Bill, and the first Bat Lash installment.

A Batman/Flash team-up is being drawn by Bob Brown and Nick Cardy. Cardy will pencil all the issues he can in the meantime.

Adventure Comics is finally becoming Adventure Comics again. The Supergirl strip is being altered into a straight hero strip with "the pill" bit written out. The back-up original material will consist of serialized stories of various characters. The first is a three-part Zatanna story by Wein & Morrow starting in 413. Then heroes like Black Canary, Vigilante, The Enchantress (remember her from Strange Adventures?) and others. Reprints will include (hopefully): Zatara, Shining Knight by Frazetta (all), Vigilante, and Wilcat. Meanwhile a Kubert Hawkman is being served. The old logo is back too.

Art Saaf has done a fill in Supergirl story.

The Creeper is returning as a villain in Batman.

According to Julie Schwartz, Berni Wrightson will not be doing Batman. New artists are being looked for but no commitments have been made as of yet.

25 year old Superman and Batman stories will be reprinted in their respective mags.

Mister Miracle 4 introduces a new character -- Big Barda. Her costume is a bikini and the general opinion is that she is sexier than Rose & Thorn, Black Widow, and Raquel Welch rolled into one. And what's more she's Scott Free's partner. She is also a renegade from Apokolips.

The DC Special with Plastic Man will contain his origin story and a solo Woozy Winks story, among others.

Dorothy Woolfolk edited two issues of Wonder Woman (both reprints of Sekowsky stuff) then turned it over to Denny O'Neil, who will not write it.

The G series of giants is going to be turned into DC Super-Spectaculars starting with Superman. There will only be one or two stories of the hero in the mag plus extra characters such as Kid Eternity, Hawkman, Atom, and others. The numbering will begin with 7 (consistent with DC Super Spectacular) and they will be issued monthly.

The Kirby mags are featuring short fillers starring the young gods (in Forever People & New Gods) and Young Scott Free (in Mr Miracle). Two page stories about the DNA project will be in Jimmy Olsen.

The Kirby b/w books will be quarterly but two issues of each will be on sale in the summer because of sales reasons.

The World's Finest Giant will feature four tales of Superman & Batman on other worlds (out in August). The JLA Giant will reprint "Riddle Of The Robot Justice League" and "Journey Into The Micro World" (also out in August). Those are the last 64 page giants.

Supergirl gets no specific uniform but will have several, each sexier than the last.

Lois Lane will be reprinting stories of Lady Danger and Doctor Pat alternating in the back.

Lightray will be coming to Earth in a future issue of New Gods. In the meantime Orion takes on the Deep Six in physical combat and kills one of them!

Infinity Man does not appear in the next few issues of Forever People.

Jimmy Olsen 142 and 143 will have a cast of villains straight from the horror pics including vampires, werewolves, and a frankenstein-type.

There will be two or more GL/GA reprint paperbacks this summer,

The hardcover Superman book will be out around Christmas from Crown. Here is a list of the stories included (some are in color, most b/w): Introduction by E. Nelson Bridwell; Action 1, 2; an early Luthor story when he had his hair; one of the first bald Luthor stories; the first Mr. Mxyz story; a story when he fights the Archer and Jimmy the office boy gets his first by-line; a story where he fights pseudo-Nazis (and another in which he fights pseudo-Japs); the Superboy story - "How Clark Kent Met Lois Lane"; "Man or Superman?", the story which told how Lois began to suspect him; "Case Of The Funny Paper Crimes"; "Superman, Matinee Idol"; "America's Secret Weapon"; "Lois Lane, Superwoman" (a Hocus-Pocus story); the origin of Superman by Wayne Boring (from issue 53); "Black Magic On Mars" with Orson Welles; "The Mightiest Team On Earth" (the first Superman-Batman story); "Girl's In Superman's Life"; "The Untold Story Of Red Kryptonite"; "Son Of Bizarro"; "Superman Meets Al Capone"; "Bizarro Meets Frankenstein"; "Superboy's First Public Appearance"; and from the 70s: "Pied Piper Of Steel"; "Superman You're Dead, Dead, Dead"; the first new Superman; and the first untold tale of Krypton.

The Batman hardcover will appear at the same time and will also have a Bridwell intro. Contents: Detective 27; 1st Robin story; 1st Alfred story; 1st Joker; 2page origin from Batman 1; 1st Dr Death; 1st Clayface (the original); 1st Riddler; "Man Behind The Red Hood"; origin of the batcave; "Superman and Batman's Greatest Foes"; "Man Who Wrote The Joker's Jokes"; "New Crimes Of Two-Face" (the imposter); "Two-Face Strikes Again" (the real one); "Voyage Of The Batmarine"; "Batman, Indian Chief"; the origins of Bathound and Batwoman; "Challenge Of The Batwoman"; "Bat Mite Meets Mr Mxyz"; "The Second Batman-Robin Team"; "Batmite Meets Bat Girl"; "Prisoners Of Three Worlds"; "Million Dollar Debut Of Batgirl"; 1st new Batman; "Secret Of The Waiting



"Graves"; "Man Or Bat"; and "The Demon Of Gothos Mansion".

The November JLA will have four pages by Adams involving Deadman, The League Of Assassins, and anybody else who is entangled with that sub-series in Batman.

DC Special 16 will be devoted to Superbaby!

Upcoming in World's Finest are Superman-Batman w/Zatanna as the catalyst; Superman and Dr Fate (with a guest shot by Zatanna), Superman-Hawkman, then Superman-Phantom Stranger. Wein wrote the first two -- "A Matter Of Light And Death" and "Peril Of The Planet Smashers"

Package subscriptions will be announced during the summer. I don't know the details.

El Diablo will return in All Star Western by Len Wein. Len may also be doing a Johnny Peril story for House Of Secrets if certain artistic conditions are met.

JLA will reprint the first Starman and Sandman stories in one issue!!!!

MARVEL

The business dept. has decreed that mags will be 32 pgs - 20¢ after only one or two 25¢ issues. Some quarterly mags will remain 48 pages.

Neal Adams is continuing on The Avengers. He will be inked by Tom Palmer. He did a 34-pager for 93, half of a 21 pager in 94 (the balance by John Buscema), and all of most later issues. The Kree plot ends in 96.

Inhumans will be drawn by Mike Sekowsky and Bill Everett.

Conan will have two 48 page issues. 9 is in our checklist section but 10 is a 34 page adaption of "Rouges In The House".

Dracula will be a color mag of either 32 or 48 pages out in September.

Iron Man and Sgt. Fury are going bi-monthly. Fury may return to monthly but will have mixed reprints and originals.

Where Creatures Roam is the only weirdbook canceled.

Stan Lee's leave is up and he is back writing his books. He didn't stop editing.

The six-armed Spidey plot ends in 102 for good. Thomas wrote 101-104.

One ish of Cap/Falcon is done as a split book. Gray Morrow may have done the Falcon 10-pager (unconfirmed report).

The large Thor will be a book-lengther with The Silver Surfer.

Roy Thomas has adapted one or two of Howard's Wolfshead stories for the Conan mag.

The Overmind plot in FF ends with 116, a 34 page story by Archie Goodwin.

Savage Tales will not appear till after the summer, if at all.

SKYWALD

The Bravados mag and Jungle Adventures have been temporarily cancelled. They will be brought back if sales are good.

Psycho skipped one issue but is not cancelled.

Science-Fiction Odyssey has been postponed until August because of technical details.

The Love Witch mag will be a black & white mag but will not appear on her own until after she appears again in Nightmare (she had previously appeared in Psycho 3).

The Heap comic's first issue went on sale June 24 in case any of you missed it.

Some Skywald magazines will be featuring a fan column by Jeffrey Ronan (Pardon me if it's spelled wrong but I got the news by phone). The column will contain follow ups of fan letters and interviews of artists and writers. The column will definately appear in Psycho.

Allan Asherman's photo-feature that has been running in Nightmare will also be in Psycho.

Coming Comics

DC SPECIAL (14, Oct). The second all-villain issue. Superman faces The Toyman, Batman versus The Penguin (both stories from the forties), and The Flash battles the team of Captain Cold and Heat Wave. On sale July 1.

DC SUPER-SPECTACULAR (5, 1971). A 100-page collection of Love Stories. On sale July 1.

WONDER WOMAN (196, Oct). Reprint issue edited by Dorothy Woolfolk. On sale July 1.

GHOSTS (1, Oct). The cover story is "Death's Bridegroom!" Other stories in this issue are: "Ghost In The Iron Coffin", "Spectral Coachman", "Cadavar Comes Home", "Tattooed Terror" and "The Last Dream". Some are reprints, some new. Cover shown in this issue. On sale July 1.

OUR ARMY AT WAR (236, Sept). Sgt Rock in "Face The Devil!", a beautiful Heath story. Also very nicely done is a J. Severin short - "22 Hours To San Francisco". Fillers are "Empty Cockpit", "Third Enemy", and "No Beginning...No End!". On sale July 1.

LOIS LANE GIANT (114, G-87, Oct). The Strangest Love Stories is this issue's theme. Reprints are: "The Mystery Superman", "The Monster Who Loved Lois Lane" (and its sequel), "Superman's Romance With Lana Lane", and "The Girl Who Mourned For Superman". Also included is two unpublished Kubert golden age pages of Thorn vs. Flash with a one-panel cameo by GL. On sale July 6.

TOMAHAWK (136, Oct). Hawk in "A Piece Of Sky!". Firehair (by Kubert) in a 6 page untitled story involving a stallion. Reprinted is "The Secrets Of Sgt. Witch Doctor" On sale July 6.

OUR FIGHTING FORCES (133, Oct). The Losers in "Heads Or Tails!" plus "Anthill", "No Place For A Pt. Boat", and "The Firing Squad can Wait!" On sale July 6.

HOUSE OF MYSTERY (194, Oct). Lead story is "Born Loser" a new Alex Toth story. It is followed by reprints of "Human Wave" and "Negative Man" (NM by Kirby). The last story is another original -- "The King Is Dead" by Nestor Redondo a new talent who will be in very many weird mags now. On sale July 8.

JIMMY OLSEN (141, Sept). "Will The Real Don Rickles Please Panic!" Starring Jimmy, Don Rickles, The Guardian (the Newsboy Legion does not appear), and Clark Kent (ye olde Superman is also absent). Special guest star -- Lightray!! And the reprinted origin of the Newsboy Legion from Star Spangled Comics Number 7. On sale July 8.

SUPERBOY (177, Sept). Two new Superboy stories -- "Our Traitor, Super Son!" and "The Plauge From The Past!" plus a Legion reprint -- "Revenge Of The Knave From Krypton!" On sale July 8.

MISTER MIRACLE (4, Oct). This is it -- Big Barda! The sexiest super-female ever! Plus Mr Miracle escaping from a medieval death trap (as well as the trap we saw him in last ish). Plus a story of "Young Scott Free" and The Boy Commandos involved with a plane called the Rosalind K. On sale July 13.

PHANTOM STRANGER (15, Oct). The Stranger returns to the heart of Africa to deal with "The Iron Messiah". Dr 13 faces "The Satan Sextet" and Mark Merlin's first appearance reprinted -- "I Scout Earth's Strangest Secrets!" from House Of Secrets 23 by Mort Meskin. On sale July 13.



DARK MANSION OF FORBIDDEN LOVE (1, Oct). Edited by Dorothy Woolfolk. This ish contains a 37 page story "Secret Of The Missing Bride!" which is very nice. Future issues of this mag will have one 24 page and one 12 page, both new. Cover shown in this issue. On sale July 13.

SUPERMAN (242, Sept). "The Ultimate Battle!" with negie, I Ching, and Wonder Woman concludes the saga of Superman's lost powers. The result is a change in magnitude. Reprinted stories are: "The Girl Who Believed In Superman" and "The World's Mightiest Weakling" On sale July 13.

TEEN TITANS (35, Oct). The TT faces "Intruders In The Forbidden Crypt". Mal stars in a short -- "A Titan Is Born". Reprints are Aquaman (starring Aqualad) -- "The Doom Hunters!" and Green Arrow (starring Speedy) -- "Have Arrow Will Travel!" On sale July 15.

WEIRD WAR TALES (1, Oct). Edited by Joe Kubert. The original story is "The Fort Which Did Not Return!" Also included is "The Story Behind The Cover", "End Of The Sea Wolf" and "Baker's Dozen" On sale July 15.

DC SUPER-SPECTACULAR (6, 1971). This is it! THE WORLD'S GREATEST SUPER-HEROES. Wrap around Neal Adams cover which is beyond anyone's wildest imaginings. The complete 1963 JLA/JSA story -- "Crisis On Earth-One" and "Crisis On Earth-Two". Hawkman by Joe Kubert -- "The Sinister Spells Of The Sorcerer". Johnny Quick in "Stand-In For 100 Convicts". Wildcat in an unpublished Golden Age story -- "Crime Wore A Costume". The Vigilante in "Galleon On The Desert". Also an untitled Spectre reprint from the early More Fun days. On sale July 15.

SPIRIT WORLD (1, Fall). Jack Kirby's new parapsychology mag. 48 pages of story plus a poster on souls. On sale July 15.

YOUNG ROMANCE (173, Sept). On sale July 15.

FLASH (209, Sept). The Flash in "Beyond The Speed Of Life"; Kid Flash learns that "Coincidence Can Kill". Reprint story is "The Elongated Man's Undersea Trap". On sale July 20



JUSTICE LEAGUE (92, Sept). Concluding the annual JLA/JSA story -- "Solomon Grundy, The One And Only" in which the modern Robin gets a new suit, designed by Neal Adams. Also included are reprints of "The One Man Justice League" (a Superman story) and "Space Enemy Number One" (a non-series story). On sale July 20.

YOUNG LOVE (???, Oct). On sale July 20.

LOIS LANE (113, Sept). "Foe Of 100 Faces" teams Lois, Superman, and The Thorn against the 100. Book-length. Reprinted in this ish--"Reptile Girl Of Metropolis" On sale July 22.

BATMAN (235, Sept). "Swamp Sinister", the second part of the Rah Sal Ghoul (to use the phonetical spelling) plot. Plus the second part of the current Robin trilogy-- "The Outcast Society" and reprinted from Detective Comics 329 Infantino & Fox's "Castle With Wall To Wall Danger". On sale July 22.

UNEXPECTED (127, Sept). Contents are: "Follow The Piper To Your Grave", "The Cat Who Knew Too Much", "The Thirty Thousand Dollar Corpse", "The Ferry Was Waiting", "The Queen Of The Stones", "Frightened To Death", and "Till Death Do Us Unite". On sale July 22.

WORLD'S FINEST (205, Sept). Superman teams up with The Teen Titans to visit a town where everyone is brainwashed into thinking as if they were in the eighteenth century. Particular watch Mal's actions. Plus a new feature - Fiction Is Stranger Than Truth as shown in "The Secret Of The Last Earthman". Plus the Shining Knight in "Duel Of The Flying Knights" with art by Frank Frazetta. On sale July 27.

STRANGE ADVENTURES (232, Oct). Adam Strange battles alien invaders in Rann's future and weird cones on modern day Rann in "The Multiple Menace Weapon". Also the first (originally non-series) Star Rovers story by Sid Greene -- "Who Caught The Loborilla" On sale July 27.

FOR THE BALANCE OF THE CHECKLIST + LATE NEWS TURN TO PAGE 7.

FANZINE REVIEWS

We review zines very haphazardly. Any and all zines may pop up here in the future. Some great zines may never appear. Fanzine news will also be contained in this column.

FANZINE NEWS: Fantazine has announced that its last issue will be 5/6, a con coverage issue. Martin Pasko is moving.

GRAPHIC STORY WORLD 1. This new bi-monthly is a magazine of comic art. Most pure comics news is derived from other zines but sidelights and specialties are covered in here that were never reported regularly before. International fan news, underground comics news, fanzine news are some areas of special interest. GSW is 25¢ or 4 for \$1 from Richard Kyle; Post Office Box 16168; Long Beach, California, 90806. Number 2 is due out in mid-July.

FLASHBACK 1. At long last an EC reprint magazine. For \$1 you get a Wally Wood cover (from an old Weird Fantasy) plus three Wood-sf classics from the peak days of EC -- "Rescued", "Deadlock", and "The Enemies Of The Colony". The stories are reproduced in black and white though. Order from DynaPubs; RR 1, Box 297; East Moline, Illinois, 61244.

QUEBEC PANELOLOGISTS SOCIETY BULLETIN 2/3. Only one comment -- the news contained 93 line of direct quote from Etcetera and we have received no response from Ralph Alfonso to our questions on the matter.

COMIC MEDIA 1. From England comes a new art/article zine. The best article in this issue is a detailed summary of the 1942 Superman hardcover including seven of the illos by Shuster. Other articles include: The Phantom, Summary:Batman 1-5, short features, and a four page ama-strip. The editors are Nick Landau and Denis but here in the US order from Charlie Swift; 4718 North 9 Street; Philadelphia, Penn. 19141. 50¢ mailed flat in an envelope.

CARTOON 2. Jim Ivey is publishing an excellent scrapbook of comic strip art. The early days of cartooning are well portrayed thru art (reprinted) and some articles. CARTOON is unique and serves its purpose well but we don't recommend it to the comic book fan. The strip fan will enjoy perusing its pages and will find many things to light his heart but the Superman-Batman freak will be a little bit bored. This mag is available only by

four-issue subs (\$4) from Jim Ivey; 561 Obispo Avenue; Orlando, Florida, 32807. Number three due out in August.

GRAPHIC STORY MAGAZINE 13. The true beauty of this issue is a very nice, very detailed interview with John Severin. Covers, pages, and panels by Severin are used to lighten the pages of text. Also in this issue is a reprint of Adam Link's Revenge from the first two issues of GSM, a strip which I didn't enjoy called Malig (no word balloons or noticable continuity), a two-page short by Bob Foster, and a column on pro names by Hames Ware. A very nice issue physically. \$1.25 from Bill Spicer; 4878 Granada Street; Los Angeles, California, 90042.

COMING COMICS - continued from page 6

ACTION COMICS (404, Sept). "Kneel To Your Conqueror, Superman!" is the lead (and cover) story. Then we have a Tale Of Clark Kent - "The Day They Killed Clark Kent!". Reprints are The Atom in "The Spectar Of 3,000 Moons Lake" and Aquaman in "The Coward And The Hero". On sale July 29.

ADVENTURE COMICS (410, Sept). Supergirl gets a new (and sexier) costume and the old logo is back. Supergirl stars in "The Nature Of The Beast" (lead story) and "Woman Without A Planet" a story which introduces another super-femme. Reprinted is the Legion Of Super-Heroes Story - "Revolt Of The Girl Legionnaires". On sale July 29.

DETECTIVE COMICS (415, Sept). Batman faces "The Challenge Of The Consumer Crusader!" (shades of Nader's Raiders). Batgirl concludes her latest two-part story with "Death Shares The Spotlight" and reprint features are Mystrio in "Case Of The Forbidden Trick"; and "Finders, Keepers" (non-series). On sale July 29.

LATE NEWS

The Alex Toth B&B Flash/Atom story will be reprinted in two segments in Action Comics 406 and 407. 408 on will feature Metamorpho reprints!!!

Brave And Bold 98 will reprint the cross-over stories of Green Arrow & Aquaman from Adventure 267 that have already been reprinted in World's Finest.

SKYWALD item -- Tender Love Stories has been dropped.

Cary Bates wrote Superman 243. The cover of that issue is the first one in history showing Superman kissing a girl (not LL) naturally!

MARVEL JULY RELEASES

ASTONISHING TALES (8, Oct). Ka-Zar fights "The Battle Of New Britain!" Doctor Doom faces the Doomsword. Also a new feature by George Tuska entitled "This Badge Bedeviled!" with the accent on the supernatural. The only 48 page issue.

THE AVENGERS (92, Sept). The Avengers disbanded! Captain America hunted! Interior art by Sal Buscema, cover by Neal Adams.

CAPTAIN AMERICA AND THE FALCON (142, Oct). Continuing the saga of the Grey Gargoyle and the mysterious Element X.

CONAN THE BARBARIAN (10, Oct). Conan faces "The Bull God!" in a full-length story. Also in this issue is a Thomas/M. Severin/J. Severin adaptation of Robert E. Howard's King Kull poem -- "The King And The Oak!" (5 pages). Filling out the mag is a six page Black Knight reprint by Bill Everett. First of two 48 page Conan issues.

CHILI SPECIAL (1, 1971). Standard reprints from Chili's old mag.

DAREDEVIL (80, Sept). DD fights the Owl once more. Also the menace of the mysterious Mister Kline.

FANTASTIC FOUR (115, Oct). Reed Richards versus The FF. Plus the origin of the Overmind.

FANTASTIC FOUR SPECIAL (9, 1971). Expected reprints in this issue are "Lo, There Shall Be An Ending!" to the first FF-Thing fight and "Bedlam At The Baxter Building" (the wedding of Sue and Reed).

HULK (144, Oct). The Hulk -- a pawn of Doctor Doom! How did it happen?

IRON MAN (42, Oct). Shellhead versus the Queen Of Demons (in reality Tony Stark's latest lady love).

MARVEL FEATURE (1, Oct). The Defenders -- starring Doctor Strange, The Hulk, and Sub-Mariner. Plus a ten-page Doctor Strange story by Don Heck and Frank Giacoia revealing how he returned from retirement.

MY LOVE (13, Oct). The only 48 page love issue.

MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS (33, Dec). Whichever FF reprints weren't in the Special will be in this one. If we were right on the Special than this ish will reprint the very first appearance of the Inhumans. Plus a Human Torch/Thing reprint.

MIGHTY MARVEL WESTERN (15, Dec). Reprints of Kid Colt, Two-Gun Kid, and the Rawhide Kid.

MONSTERS ON THE PROWL (13, Oct). Two reprints plus one original monster story.

OUTLAW KID (8, Oct). More reprints from the 50s.

RAWHIDE KID (92, Oct). Tales of the wild west.

SARGENT FURY (92, Sept). One new story plus a reprint of "Into The Jaws Of Death!" The only 48 page Fury issue.

SPIDER-MAN (101, Oct). The six-armed Spidey against Morbius, the vampire thing!

SPIDER-MAN SPECIAL (8, 1971). Spidey faces The Lizard and The Shocker.

THOR (192, Sept). The mighty Thor versus the Demolisher. Also the long awaited return of The Silver Surfer. And this is only the beginning.

THOR SPECIAL (4, 1971). Thor's first battle with Hercules is reprinted in this ish.

TOWER OF SHADOWS SPECIAL (?, 1971). A mixed batch of fantasy from the fifties and the sixties.

SKYWALD JULY RELEASES

PSYCHO 4. Starring Frankenstien. 50¢ b/w mag.

HELL RIDER 2. The Hell Rider, The Butterfly, and The Wild Bunch. Some new artists.

SUNDANCE KID 3. "The Ace Of Spades Speels Death!" plus reprints.

BUTCH CASSIDY 3. Butch Cassidy and The Sundance Kid team-up.



For an exhibit entitled The Art of The Comic Strip the show at the University of Maryland Dept. of Art gallery, College Park, Md., didn't have much art.

Since adventure strips are the most relevant to me my strongest reaction was towards this section. Unfortunately examples where the medium has reached high points of expression in this field were absent. None of the following were good representations of the strips or the creators: Steve Canyon from 1963, Buzz Sawyer from 1966, Superman from 1964, Tracy from 1965, Alley Oop from 1949, Valiant from 1956 and 1967; even Terry from 1945 and Hogarth's Tarzan from 1944 were poor pieces compared to their best.

To my mind the show should have focused on the wide variety of fantasy worlds the medium has furnished the public mind with. And shown how it's at full intensity in the originals. Unfortunately what does come across are the hedgings pros allow themselves in their originals knowing reduction and coloring eliminate them. George Wunder looks pathetic. Original comic art can be handsome and complete in their original state. All the best work by the men I've mentioned has that.

The two hits of the show were the Little Nemo pages which need no comment; some of them had exquisite color notes. And Lionel Feininger's Kinder Kids. Feininger is known for his fine arts work and association with the Bauhaus but his fantasies are as strong and well drawn as McKay's output. Rather than try to characterize him, you should go to the library and look at "L.F. -- Caricature and Fantasy" by Ernst Scheyer (1964) and discover his special genius for yourself.

If most of the examples are bad the exhibit is comprehensive. The point, I guess, is the public doesn't need to be shown good strips; any will do. They have ignored comics for so long that once re-exposed to them they are seized as a phenomenon with amazing popularity.

There are two bright spots in the strip exhibit business. One is the catalogue to the above shown written by art history professors that gains an objectivity about the medium as an art that few fans attain and few books approach either. Besides outstandingly good generalizations defining the medium, there are excellent articles on McKay, McManus, Herriman, and Hogarth that go into deeper analysis than most. See your library for a copy or write and ask if they have more.

The show at Eye of Newt Gallery, 8007 Germantown Ave., Chesnut Hill, Penna. is the other bright spot. Their 100 or so original pieces are from a personal collection, well matted, for sale and none less than \$120. Here I did find the qualities I searched for in the Maryland exhibit. I even liked the Flash Gordon example and the Captain and the Kids by Dirks is a silent gem. They also have for sale the eight page Johnny Craig story "Nor Custom, Stale" from Eerie 12 as a set for \$523. Possibly that's more than Warren paid him. It's better in the flesh. This show is good.

But the conspiracy against Will Eisner and the Spirit continues. Neither exhibit has any examples, the catalogue mentions the date of the daily but that's all, and no adequate mention of Eisner has appeared in the five standard histories of the comics I'm familiar with. Steranko's section on him will be the first introduction most fans have to the man who was the first to develop a comprehensive and appropriate style for the graphic story. Noel Sickles...well that's another tale.

Tom Greeniones

Fandom Forum has undergone yet another change. It has returned to its original author (Paul Kupperberg) but it has left a legacy. Some (or all) of the following features will appear in future issues of Etcetera and some yet unknown articles will undoubtedly show up too. The current roster is Radar In The Void (Tom Greeniones), Commentary (Paul Levitz), Fandom Forum (Paul Kupperberg), Perspective (Al Savides), and as yet untitled features by Jeff Wasserman, Steve Gilary, and Joe Brancatelli. Jeff's promised articles should appear next ish.

SUPER-HERO TEAMS

Paul Levitz

This series within a series is an overview of super-hero team-ups, not super-hero groups. At irregular intervals Hero History will be turned over to this topic until we feel that the available material is exhausted.

The first team-up was The Human Torch and Sub-Mariner, of course, which took place in the dawn of comics -- Marvel Mystery Comics 8-10. They returned to battle each other several more times but as I lack all the issues in question I can't go into detail. But the consequences of this team-up are important. This was the dawning of the idea that if one hero was selling 500,000 per issue and another was selling 600,000 per issue a mag featuring them both ought to do better than either. It would be fourteen years till the theory was applied.

World's Finest Comics had been a leader in DC's sales line. It featured Superman, Batman, Tomahawk, Green Arrow, and several lesser strips. It was an extra-large 15¢ magazine to include all this. But in August of 1954 it was dropped to an ordinary 10¢er and the individual strips of Superman and Batman were merged. The lesser back-features were dropped and the first regular super-hero team was born!

In the early days only one set of supporting characters would appear in a story. The story would revolve around Superman & co. or Batman & co.. If both heroes were equally involved the supporting characters were done without. The pattern was broken naturally, but the occasions were rare.

The strip rapidly became cliché because no new or novel twists were introduced between its inception (71) and its expansion to 17 pages (141). The format change came about when the back features were dropped and replaced with a short "Surprise Feature" reprint. The extra five pages of S-B storyline enabled more intricate plots to be used.

The first expanded Superman-Batman story demonstrated the new interweaving of plots and sub-plots. It introduced the Olsen-Robin team and gave a fine demonstration of the interplay possible in the strip. For a few issues the strip had excellent stories (such as The Composite Superman tale) then it reverted into mediocrity.

The next peak era for the series was brought about by the Imaginary Story. Several excellent tales of this variety appeared around 153 and they inspired good straight stories. Jim Shooter handled some of the scripting and the series began to flourish. Neal Adams did two gems in the seventies and then Andru & Esposito took over. The strip had reached its final downhill turn. Occasional bursts of creativity kept it going but all in all its time had passed.

In the meantime The Brave And The Bold had been doing nicely as a "Batman &" magazine; featuring Batman plus a different guest-star in each issue. When Mort Weisinger left and World's Finest was given over to Julie Schwartz the decision to convert it into a "Superman &" mag was made.

The first team-up was a two-part Superman-Flash story. The team had appeared together on three other occasions; two of them involving a race to settle whether Superman was faster than The Flash. No answer was found in either Superman 199 or Flash 175 so World's Finest 198/199 was responsible for the truth. Their third previous team-up had been a standard guest-shot by The Flash in Superman 220. The issue was resolved in two-part with art by Dillin and Giella.

Then came 200. Superman teamed up with Robin sans Batman. An unspectacularish but an interesting team-up. Successive issues featured (and will feature) Superman and Green Lantern, the return of the Superman-Batman team (decisively ending the career of Superman's robots), Superman and Aquaman, a very nicely done Superman-Wonder Woman issue, and a good Superman-Teen Titans. Still on the typewriter and/or the drawing board are Superman-Hawkman and another Superman-Batman.

Another super-hero team is the gone but not forgotten Green Lantern-Flash team.

These two heroes first teamed up in Green Lantern 13 ("Duel Of The Super-Heroes"). Then, as now, they were the leading members of DC's second banana category: They revealed their secret identities to each other at the close of their first adventure and became a semi-permanent team.

The team appeared again in Green Lantern 20, Flash 131, and Flash 143. Then there was a three year period of inactivity followed by three more appearances -- Green Lantern 43, Flash 168, and Flash 191. And then they disappeared when Green Lantern took on a full time partner -- Green Arrow.

During these years Flash kept busy teaming with other heroes. He often appeared in his own magazine with The Elongated Man and later when E-man got his own strip in Detective he often came over there. Another Flash-partner was the original or Golden Age Flash. Jay Garrick returned from limbo in issue 123 of Flash and joined with his modern counterpart for the first time. He served as a sort of supporting character in the strip (as did his fellow Earth-2 heroes Dr. Fate and Dr. Mid-Nite) but the stories were written with the team-up feeling. The Flashes teamed up again in 129, 137 (which also included a cameo of the JSA and led into the first JLA-JSA story), 151, 170 (supplanted by Dr. Fate and Dr. Mid-Nite), and 173 (with Kid Flash).

Green Lantern also has teamed up with his Golden Age counterpart. They fought side by side in issues 40, 45, 52, and 61 of GL's mag. Doiby Dickles, the humorous side-kick of the old GL, joined them in 45 and 52 and was a central plot character.

There were third banana team-ups also. The leading example of this was the Atom-Hawkman team. They debuted in Atom 7, before Hawkman even possessed his own mag, in "The Case Of The Cosmic Camera". Kane and Anderson produced the first adventure in which the two heroes fought against alien invaders. The next time the two got together was in Hawkman 9, two years later. The Atom's appearance was merely a two-page guest shot at the end of the magazine but in that issue the two heroes shared their secret identities.

After another two-year gap the Atom-Hawkman team returned in Atom 31. Then, about a year later, the individual magazines of both heroes were merged. Many reasons were involved in this merger including a test of two-hero magazines and the individual sales of both mags. But in any case Atom 39 was published under The Atom And Hawkman banner. The new mag lasted until issue 45 with booklength team-ups in 39, 42, and 45.

The Atom had appeared twice alongside his Golden Age counterpart in issues 29 and 36 of his own mag.

There were even team-ups of the least famous characters. Eclipso and Prince Ra-Man, the two stars of House Of Secrets joined (?) forces in numbers 76 and 79 of that magazine. These were very strange team-ups because of the fact that Eclipso was the only series featured villain in those days before Doctor Doom.

Another minor team-up was Adam Strange-Space Ranger. Adam was never a minor character under Infantino but these two stories took place when Elias was doing Mystery In Space. These stories involved the future Adam Strange also and took place in issues 94 and 98 of Mystery In Space.

Adam Strange also appeared side by side with Hawkman in a book-length tale in Mystery In Space 91. This story contained the very essence of a super-hero team in the way the heroes fought and acted towards each other. They joined forces once again in Hawkman 18, three years later.

The Next Hero History features Mark Merlin (Alias Prince Ra-Man) but Super-Hero Teams will continue in Etcetera 7 when the spotlight will be turned on: The JLA-JSA team, The Brave & The Bold series, Dr Fate and Hourman, Elongated Man-Batman, Spectre-Wildcat, Wonder Woman-Supergirl, and the round robin appearances of Zatanna.

Coming up in the far future we have Adam Strange (someday I'll finish that article), Doctor Droom (that's right -- Droom), Eclipso, the camp era of Batman, and short-lived comics of 1966-1968.

ETCETERA - continued from page one

Reminder! Any mail that you may be sending to me during the months of July and August will undergo a one to two week forwarding delay unless you send it to:

Paul Levitz
Pine Tree Bungalows
Route 42
Monticello, New York

Circulation data for Etcetera appears at the bottom of this column.

Peace! PL

REVIEWS - continued from page one

The following issue was Love 1970. This contained some of the better love stories (as far as love stories go).

S-18 spotlighted The Three Mouseketeers and other cancelled humor features. No further comment on that.

Jerry Lewis was the star of the next ish. He has always been a half-way decent humor character. It was a decent special. It was cute at least.

Cain, the caretaker of The House Of Mystery's Room 13 was the narrator of the next Super DC Giant. It contained eight top mystery stories including three by Kirby.

S-21 was the second and last Love issue. It contained an original novel by Mike Sekowsky.

The third western-type giant was another Top Guns Of The West issue. This one
NEXT COLUMN PLEASE

was even better than the first two. It had more Johnny Thunder by Gil Kane plus Nighthawk and Matt Savage. A test reprint of Bat Lash 2 was included also.

The Unexpected contributed the last and greatest weird annual and included a story of the original Johnny Peril.

Since the Legion grabbed the Adventure Comics Giant Supergirl grabbed S-24. It was a standard collection.

The next to last, and by far the best, of the series starred The Challengers Of The Unknown by Jack Kirby & Wally Wood. A prize collection.

The last issue (S-26) was devoted to Aquaman. The stories were from mid to late Adventure and his first Showcase with all art by Fradon. It almost equalled S-25 but not quite.

Super DC Giant was a good experiment. Many normally unreprinted strips showed up and showed up well. Leftovers from SDG are being shelved or re-organized. Weird War Tales is now an independant magazine, Plastic Man took over DC Special 15, but books like Wonder Woman and Teen Titans have lost. These issues are ready to go to print; only press time has killed them. Perhaps someday they will show up when Sparta can accommodate them. But until then we must be content with DC Special and DC 100-Page Super-Spectacular. Both have adapted many elements from Super DC Giant and perhaps in the future they will adapt more.

PAUL KUPPERBERG

STATISTICS

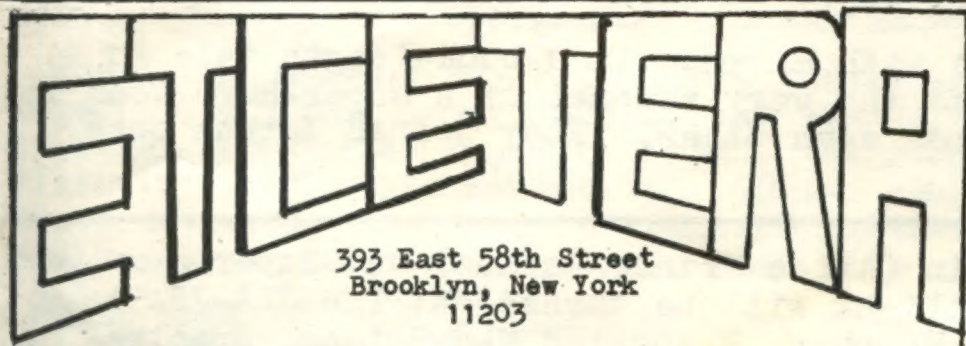
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COMING IN ETCETERA 6: REVIEWS OF THE NEW MAGS FROM DC, MARVEL, AND SKYWALD; CON REPORT: NY & D-CON; HERO HISTORY: MARK MERLIN (ALIAS PRINCE RA-MAN); NEWS; FANZINE REVIEWS; PHOTO COVERAGE OF THE NY CON; AND MORE. TO BE MAILED AUGUST 1



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